

THE DESOTO COUNTY NEWS.

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DESOTO TO EXHIBIT

AT TAMPA

The mass meeting held yesterday afternoon at the court house in the interest of the South Florida Fair to be held in Tampa, February 4-11, was full of interest and enthusiasm, though not as well attended from other portions of the county as had been hoped for.

Mr. Howard Curry, field agent for the South Florida Fair, was present, and he made a splendid talk fully describing the splendid efforts that are being made by the citizens of Tampa to the end that this may be the greatest "boost event" ever held in the southern part of the state.

There was also present Colonel A. S. Bageley, president of the Wauchula Truck Growers' Association, the Hon. C. C. Thornhill, president of the Wauchula Board of Trade, and Mr. J. W. Knox, a prominent business man of Wauchula. These gentlemen added much to the interest of the meeting by their valuable suggestions and by their spirit of optimism as to the assured success of the undertaking, as was manifested by their further assurance of the hearty co-operation that the citizens of Wauchula will take in seeing that the county is well represented at Tampa.

Mr. Thornhill was nominated by Ed. Scott and unanimously elected to take personal charge of DeSoto county's exhibits at the fair. This gives positive assurance to all who desire to send exhibits that everything will be looked after in a perfectly satisfactory manner.

The citizens should keep in mind and assist in every way possible in telling the people of the county that the railroads have generously agreed to transport all exhibits to and from the fair grounds free of charge. Col. C. B. McCall was present at the meeting, and he assured the citizens that the C. H. & N. Railroad would gladly furnish storage room for any exhibits that are sent to them.

In order to bring about the highest degree of interest among the citizens of the county, it has been decided that the last Friday and Saturday in this month exhibits will be made in Arcadia, using the commodious concrete building now occupied as class rooms, for the city school for this display. A small door fee of 25 cents will be charged to all adults, and 15 cents for all children of school age. These fees will be used for the purpose of supplementing the amount already on hand for prizes and for paying any expenses incident to the work.

It was certainly very generous in Professor Lynch and the board of trustees to offer this building for the display of DeSoto's products, but after all, what better way is there to educate our youth than to interest them in the material things around them. This is not done in all schools, and we congratulate Arcadia in having a school that leads in all good things.

Now that our plans are laid, it behooves every person who is interested in the future development of the county to most heartily co-operate in making this effort a big success. The columns of the News are open to the public in behalf of this laudable movement, for nothing attempted in a long time can be made to mean so much to the development of the county's best interests as this. Put your shoulders to the wheel today!

PUT MACHINERY IN SHAPE.

Farm machinery should receive a thorough overhauling before spring work begins. If implements are not taken out of the shed or from under the shade trees until they are needed they may not be in running order. See if there are any broken parts or worn parts which need replacing. F. M. Rast, of the University of Florida College of Agriculture reminds the farmers that repairs cannot be had inside of a few days or some time weeks. With some crops, such as truck, a week of delay often means the difference between profit and loss.

Machinery which has stood in the fence corner since last used will need generous oiling to free it of rust. It will be a good plan to run machines a little to see if they are in shape and to get them limbered up before time to use them. Plows should be scoured, harness should be repaired, clevises, laprings, single trees and double trees, put in shape. Spike tooth harrows should have their teeth reversed, and discs should be ground if they need it. Clean out oil holes, tighten nuts, and replace worn bolts.

CATERPILLARS OFTEN

ATTACK CABBAGES.

Among the various caterpillars which feed on cabbages, the looper is the worst. In fact, the cabbage looper is perhaps the worst enemy which Florida cabbage has. J. R. Watson, entomologist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, recommends lead arsenate as a remedy for the pest.

Use 1 1-2 pounds of the powder, or 2 pounds of the paste, to 550 gallons of water. It is best to include some sort of sticker because the slick surfaces of the leaves will shed the spray. Two bars of soap, or more if the water is hard, or two quarts of syrup, or a paste made of two pounds of flour in two gallons of water, will make the spray stick. Where cactus is available, thirty pounds of ground cactus in 50 gallons of water may be used. Allow the cactus to stand in the water 24 hours. Then strain and apply the lead of arsenate to the water in which the cactus soaked.

Lead arsenate should not be applied within ten days before the cabbage is to be marketed. There is no danger to the consumer, but the spray detracts from the appearance, and thus reduces the sale price. A person would have to eat several heads of cabbage at one sitting to obtain enough of the poison from the foregoing formula to sustain injury. Then too, the cabbage heads from the inside, and poison rarely reaches the edible leaves. The spray should be applied whenever, or as frequently as, the caterpillars become troublesome. The looper is some times also found on lettuce.

L. F. MADSEN FOUND DEAD

Laurits Frederick Madsen was found dead in his home near Bowling Green yesterday morning. Mr. Madsen has been quite despondent for some time, due no doubt to ill health. Early in the morning he notified a neighbor with whom he takes his meals, who resides near by, that he did not wish any breakfast.

A little later in the day as the neighbor passed by his little cottage where he lived all alone, he saw Madsen standing with his back to the road, and a half hour later as he re-passed the house and seeing nothing of him, he concluded to go in and see how he was doing. To his surprise he found him on the bed in a dying condition.

Physicians were hastily summoned, but they could do nothing for the unfortunate man.

Mr. J. B. O'Rear, justice of the peace in that district, summoned a jury which, after a brief time in examining the body with the assistance of Dr. Garner, of Wauchula, rendered the following verdict:

January 11, 1916.

We, the jury empaneled in the case of Fred Madsen, agree that he came to his death from natural causes. So say we one and all.

D. E. DAVIS, Foreman,
J. A. McCOLLUM,
S. A. CARLTON,
E. S. SAULS,
J. J. POWELL,
J. I. HUTCHINS.

Mr. Madsen was a native Swede, having resided in the Bowling Green neighborhood for about a year, where he had purchased a small farm. So far as known he has no relatives in this country.

In looking over his papers his will was found, which reads as follows: "Bowling Green, Florida, Oct. 26th, 1915.

"This is My Will.
Everything I got in the United States of America goes to my Sister Miss Petra Rucklekkle.

VINKOLUEI N2 SVENBORG
Denmark.
L. F. MADSEN."

The Osceola County Board of Commissioners has just issued one of the most attractive booklets we have seen. It contains sixty pages of excellent reading matter, with beautiful half-tone cuts of groves, farm scenes, buildings, etc. This booklet contains just such matter as we regard to be the most valuable advertising material for this splendid county, and we congratulate the Board of Commissioners in this aggressive step, and commend their action for the earnest consideration of the commissioners of other counties. The agricultural possibilities of the state can not be better advertised than a free distribution of such literature. The booklet is from the Tampa Tribune press, and is a beautiful work of art.

CALVES SHOULD HAVE

A GROWING RATION.

It is false economy to let the calves run wild. They can shift for themselves, but the farmer who thinks that he is saving feed will have to pay dear for his economy when he begins to fatten the animals. The secret of profitable production is to keep the calves growing, without any stinting, until they are ready for market as baby beef or steers. An animal which has been stunted through neglect and lack of proper nourishment will never entirely recover. Even though it does fatten well, the expense of overcoming the stuntedness will be far greater than plenty of feed throughout the growing period.

H. G. Clayton, assistant in animal industry to the University of Florida Experiment Station, suggests that the calves should have milk as long as possible. Skim milk is about as good as whole. They should not have enough to produce scours. Teach the young calves to eat such grain as corn, oats, bran, before weaning time, so that they will not be stunted by the change of feed and lose the calf bloom.

After weaning give all the good bright legume hay they will clean up, and a small grain allowance to keep them steadily growing. Cotton seed meal should not be fed until the calves are about six months old. For calves under six months Mr. Clayton offers the following ration: Bran 20 parts, corn meal 20, linseed meal 10 and oats 30. This ration has a ratio of 1:4:5. Calves over six months should have a ration consisting of corn meal 30, oats 30, bran 10, cotton seed meal 10. They should be given as much of either ration as they will clean up at a feed, in addition to good legume hay.

The practice with dairy and beef calves is somewhat different, since dairy calves are usually taken from the mother and taught to eat immediately, and are not usually kept so fat as beef calves. If calves are to be shown the foregoing ration will be found satisfactory, and together with grooming and a little linseed meal will put them in good show condition.

WAS AUSTRIAN SUB

Which Sank Italian Liner Porto Said in Mediterranean.

Berlin, Jan. 12.—A statement given out by the semi-official Overseas News Agency establishes the fact that it was an Austrian submarine which sank the Italian liner Porto Said in the Mediterranean last month, causing the death of six passengers and one member of the crew. It is asserted the steamship attempted to ram the submarine.

The statement follows: "In reference to the sinking of the Italian steamship Porto Said by an Austro-Hungarian submarine: "Vienna reports that the submarine ordered the steamship to stop. The Porto Said first attempted to escape and then ran up a white flag, and halted.

"When the submarine approached the steamer the latter suddenly steered at the submarine in order to ram her. At this juncture the submarine opened fire and hit the steamship, which again came to a halt and lowered boats.

"The submarine ceased firing, drew up to the steamship, and observed that the persons in the boat which had put off from the Porto Said were making for the coast without attempting to rescue those swimming in the sea. The submarine halted the boat containing the captain of the Porto Said. The captain was told that he would be shot if he did not save those struggling in the water.

"On the steamship were found two persons, one of whom was wounded. They were taken off in a boat from the submarine, and after the hurts of the wounded persons were bandaged, they were handed over to the captain's boat.

"It was not until after this had been done the Porto Said was torpedoed. Meanwhile the submarine, while still giving assistance, was shelled by a hostile torpedo boat and a yacht."

PHILATHEA CLASS

OF METHODIST CHURCH.

A meeting of the Methodist Philathea class was held at the home of Mrs. A. J. Dozier on January 8th. While many points relative to class work and duties were discussed, the principal business of the meeting was the election of officers for 1916, and the following officers were elected: Class teacher, Mrs. Mary Smith. President, Miss Vess Parker. Vice-President, Mrs. Frazier. Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Florence Roberts. Reporter, Miss Elsa Schneider. After the business meeting delicious refreshments were served, and a happy social hour spent.

MUST NOMINATE THEODORE

Chicago, Jan. 12.—Col. Cecil Lyons, of Texas, who arrived here recently with members of the progressive national committee to determine the time and place of the progressive national convention, declared that the republicans must nominate Theodore Roosevelt.

"If the republicans do not nominate Roosevelt," he said, "Woodrow Wilson will be re-elected president of the United States."

The general opinion of the committeemen was that the convention would be held in Chicago during the week of June 7, when the republican national convention is in session here. Speaking on the subject of "Our Country" at the banquet given by George W. Perkins to the committee, Bainbridge Colby, of New York, reviewed the actions and words of famous Americans in former times and contrasted them with the present.

"Has the true voice of our country yet been heard as to the unwarranted sinking of defenseless merchantmen?" asked Mr. Colby, "the wanton slaying of women and children at sea, the trampling down of national life, the interruption of our legitimate neutral commerce, the violation of solemn treaties, the substitution of frightfulness for faith?"

"Better than a third or a fourth or a fifth note from our state department, each excelling its predecessor in rhetorical finish and dialectical refinement, are it seems to me, such rugged words as were spoken by Grant at Fort Donelson: 'No terms except unconditional and immediate surrender can be accepted. I propose to move upon your works immediately.'

"Better than long waiting for the corroboration of what is known as the certification of the obvious and the proof of the conceded in matters where the lives of Americans are involved and in which our power and disposition to avenge insults upon our nationality are openly derided, better I say in tone and substance, is the policy reflected in the famous message sent from the treasury department on January 29, 1861, signed by John A. Dix, secretary of the treasury of the United States: 'If any one attempts to haul down the American flag, shoot him on the spot.'

AVOID SPOILED SILAGE.

Care must be used in feeding silage, especially if the weather is unusually warm. John M. Scott, animal industrialist to the University of Florida Experiment Station, suggests that only enough silage for one day be taken from the silo at a time. That which lies longer is apt to become moldy and kill or injure animals. Keep the top of the silage level in the silo so that as little will be exposed as possible. It is wise to examine the top layer closely, especially if one is feeding only a few head of stock, each day.

Mr. Scott is feeding twenty-four dairycows from a 15-foot silo, and finds that the small layer taken off daily barely keeps fresh. Some times a close examination is necessary to detect the mold when it is just starting. When one has a silo of large diameter it is often difficult to keep fresh silage, because the air penetrates deeper than the thin daily layer necessary for feed.

Why not see your neighbors and get them to help buy a stump puller? The cost can be materially reduced that way, and you can begin to get returns from the land which those stumps occupy. Furthermore you can use labor saving machinery and get your money back in a short time. C. K. McQuarrie, of the University of Florida Extension Division, suggests also burning the stumps during the winter. Either plan is good.

WILL BE BANNER ROAD

YEAR IN LEE COUNTY.

Fort Myers, Jan. 10.—The road work in different districts appears to be proceeding with all due celerity, and by the close of this year Lee county will be able to present a substantial, continuous tract of highways stretching in every direction.

Large consignments of vegetables are daily moving forward from Sanibel and Iona, principally consisting of eggplants, cucumbers and peppers; but in a few days the enormous crop of tomatoes will be ripening and ready for shipment, in addition to large quantities of beans and lettuce and other delicacies.

The fund for the monument to General Robert E. Lee, which is to be erected in the court house yard, progresses steadily, although still a long ways from the required amount.

UNPRECEDENTED PROSPERITY

Florida has never been a "boom" state. Its development has been long delayed, but the advances made have been oak-like in their permanency.

After several months of depression, the causes for which originated far beyond its borders, all Florida is giving evidence of industrial activity that eclipses any period of prosperity heretofore known.

In no section of the state is this more evident than in DeSoto county. Its vastness of resources, variety of products, number of industries, natural advantages of soil and climate, and average wealth per capita, she leads the state. And yet her development has not been commensurate with her geographical and climatic advantages, to say nothing of her industrial importance. And now comes "the sound of a gong in the mulberry trees." Whichever way one turns is the scene of renewed and intensified activity. Hotels are filled. On every section of land may be seen investors looking for a location. The influx of sight-seers and homeseekers is unprecedented, and still, we are informed by railway and steamship agencies, the volume of traffic will not reach its crest until the first of February.

Tampa, to which we always point with pride as our Big Sister, is already filled, and is preparing to entertain the largest crowds ever assembled in the state.

And for all this, there are reasons: The exposition has closed; the people of our northern states have more money to spend than ever before; Europe is closed as a tourist country. What's the answer? Florida!

The business is here. More is coming. Have you your share? Are you going after it?

The DeSoto County News is preparing a Mid-Winter Magazine Edition, which is to be the largest, most artistic, and best ever attempted in DeSoto County, and, next to the Tampa Tribune's Year Book, the best ever published in Florida. Advertising space is selling rapidly. A word to the wise is sufficient.

BRICK STREETS FOR WAUCHULA

Wauchula, Jan. 12.—Work has started on the paving of the streets of Wauchula. Wauchula is the first town in DeSoto county to have brick paved streets.

Mayor E. F. Bostick laid the first brick and accompanied the ceremony with an address. Wauchula is proud of the distinction that has been placed upon it.

The "get together" banquet at the Peace River Hotel was an enthusiastic gathering of Wauchula promoters. Editor George M. Goolsby, of the Advocate, was toastmaster, and helped make a success of the occasion.

There were many addresses made and many hopeful expressions given. The development of the town and the bright prospects for the future were discussed. Among those who made addresses were B. L. Hamner, of Tampa, Colonel Badgley, a citizen of Wauchula, formerly of New Jersey; E. C. Thornhill, one of the most progressive farmers; Harry Stansfield, the druggist, and J. B. Long, a popular contractor and builder. The banquet was all that could be desired, and much credit is due Mr. Simmons, of the Peace River Hotel.

Among other buildings recently erected are two brick buildings at the corner of Main street and Sixth avenue. One of these is of two rooms and belongs to Harry Stansfield. The other is owned by W. E. Mitchell, and has three rooms facing on Main street. Two more days will see the completion of these buildings. They have already been rented.

MR. L. D. JONES

MAKES PUBLIC

Mr. L. D. Jones, manager of the Citrus Exchange, has just given out some interesting figures in regard to the citrus fruit industry. Mr. Jones says:

"The 1915-16 citrus crop will amount to about 8,000,000 boxes, of which about 2,500,000 are grape fruit, 350,000 tangerines, and 5,150,000 oranges, according to his estimates. The crop is smaller than last season's although last season's went nearly a million boxes beyond the estimate. Due to warm weather last winter, the bloom came at the wrong time to set a big crop this year, and all estimates since early in the season have pointed to a small crop. Conditions, so far as can be seen, are favorable to a big crop next season, and Mr. Jones would not be surprised to see it run to 12,000,000 boxes. New acreage is constantly being added, and young groves coming into bearing.

Prices have ruled much better this year, and there has been no slump since the first of the season. Less cut-throat competition is one reason, the green fruit ruling another, and the short crop another. The following table shows the crop of the state for a period of thirty years:

Crop of Former Years.		Output
Season.		In boxes
1884-5	...	500,000
1885-6	...	900,000
1886-7	...	260,000
1887-8	...	1,260,000
1888-9	...	1,950,000
1889-0	...	2,150,000
1890-1	...	2,450,000
1891-2	...	2,664,791
1892-3	...	3,457,507
1893-4	...	4,163,849
1894-5	...	2,808,474
1895-6	...	147,000
1896-7	...	216,579
1897-8	...	359,960
1898-9	...	250,000
1899-0	...	972,589
1900-1	...	1,350,700
1901-2	...	972,589
1902-3	...	1,465,306
1903-4	...	2,961,195
1906-7	...	2,890,390
1907-8	...	3,793,126
1908-9	...	5,250,000

Season	F.O.B.	Amount	Boxes.
1909-10	\$.134	8,174,000	6,100,000
1910-11	1.65	7,590,000	4,600,000
1911-12	2.21	10,405,350	4,708,350
1912-13	1.96	10,925,756	8,125,349
1913-14	1.83	12,854,476	6,751,080
1914-15	1.48	14,175,544	9,571,314

Last year the Exchange handled about 22 per cent. of the crop in the state. This year they hope to have from 25 to 30 per cent. The Exchange has been the salvation of the industry, and should handle a much larger per cent. of the crop.

Up to noon last Monday a total of 1,664 cars of grape fruit and 7,952 cars of oranges had left the state, a total of 9,616 cars of Florida fruit. Figuring 330 boxes to the car, this is a total of 3,173,280 boxes, or 39.9 per cent. of the estimated crop of 8,000,000 boxes. Last year at the same time 2,627 cars of grape fruit and 2,627 cars of oranges had been shipped, a total of 10,929 cars, or 3,666,570 boxes. At the same time the crop was estimated at 8,500,000 boxes, but turned out to be 9,571,314, so that at this time last year 37.7 per cent. of the actual crop had been shipped."

AMERICA'S VICTORY

London, England, Jan. 12.—"It seems to us that on present lines the central powers have the whip hand of the United States," says the Manchester Guardian, in an editorial regarding Germany's new promises in the submarine controversy.

America's diplomatic victory, the paper goes on to say, is limited to promises as to President Wilson's two principles involved at the beginning of the controversy—protection of Americans and assertion of the laws of humanity—have been violated during the last six weeks in the Mediterranean with some of the worst submarine outrages.

"Germany's promises," the editorial declares, "do not bind Austria nor Austria's other two allies; and if, as is now suggested, the case of the Persia is allowed to drop because no one actually saw the submarine which sank her, then the central powers have a clear guide to means whereby they may sink liners or other ships without incurring diplomatic trouble. If they sink a liner without warning and without showing themselves, how shall it be known that it was not sunk by a submarine and not by a mine or earthquake?"